

Assembly Bill No. 2060

CHAPTER 383

An act to add and repeal Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 1234) of Title 8 of Part 2 of the Penal Code, relating to recidivism.

[Approved by Governor September 17, 2014. Filed with
Secretary of State September 17, 2014.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2060, V. Manuel Pérez. Supervised Population Workforce Training Grant Program.

Existing law defines probation to mean the suspension of the imposition or execution of a sentence of an individual convicted of a crime and the order of his or her conditional and revocable release in the community under the supervision of a probation officer. Existing law authorizes probation for some, but not all, felony convictions.

Existing law requires all eligible people released from prison on and after October 1, 2011, or, whose sentences have been deemed served, as provided, after serving a prison term for a felony, upon release from prison, and for a period not exceeding 3 years immediately following release, to be subject to postrelease community supervision provided by a county agency designated by each county's board of supervisors that is consistent with evidence-based practices, including, but not limited to, supervision policies, procedures, programs, and practices demonstrated by scientific research to reduce recidivism among individuals under postrelease supervision. Existing law authorizes a court, when sentencing a person to county jail for a felony, to commit the person to county jail for either the full term in custody, as specified, or to suspend the execution of a concluding portion of the term selected at the court's discretion. Under existing law, this period of suspended execution is supervised by the county probation officer and is known as mandatory supervision.

This bill, until January 1, 2021, would establish the Supervised Population Workforce Training Grant Program to be administered, as provided, by the California Workforce Investment Board and funded, upon appropriation by the Legislature. The bill would provide grant program eligibility criteria for counties and provide that eligible uses for grant funds include, but are not limited to, vocational training, stipends for trainees, and apprenticeship opportunities for the supervised population, which would include individuals on probation, mandatory supervision, and postrelease community supervision. By January 1, 2018, the board would be required to submit a report to the Legislature containing specified information, including an evaluation of the effectiveness of the grant program.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares that the 2014 Budget Act appropriated one million dollars (\$1,000,000) to the Employment Development Department for the purpose of a recidivism reduction workforce training and development grant program, payable from the Recidivism Reduction Fund.

(b) It is the intent of the Legislature that the California Workforce Investment Board be responsible for setting the policy of the grant program, and that this act allow the Employment Development Department to provide funds from its budget appropriation to the California Workforce Investment Board through an interagency agreement.

SEC. 2. Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 1234) is added to Title 8 of Part 2 of the Penal Code, to read:

CHAPTER 4. SUPERVISED POPULATION WORKFORCE TRAINING GRANT
PROGRAM

1234. For purposes of this chapter, the following terms have the following meanings:

(a) “California Workforce Investment Board” or “State WIB” means the California Workforce Investment Board established pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 14010) of Chapter 3 of Division 7 of the Unemployment Insurance Code.

(b) “Grant program” means the Supervised Population Workforce Training Grant Program.

(c) “Supervised population” means those persons who are on probation, mandatory supervision, or postrelease community supervision and are supervised by, or are under the jurisdiction of, a county.

1234.1. (a) This chapter establishes the Supervised Population Workforce Training Grant Program to be administered by the California Workforce Investment Board.

(b) The grant program shall be developed and implemented in accordance with the criteria set forth in Section 1234.3. In developing the program, the State WIB shall consult with public and private stakeholders, including local workforce investment boards, local governments, and nonprofit community-based organizations that serve the supervised population.

(c) The grant program shall be funded, upon appropriation by the Legislature. Implementation of this program is contingent upon the director of the State WIB notifying the Department of Finance that sufficient moneys have been appropriated for this specific grant program.

(d) The outcomes from the grant program shall be reported pursuant to Section 1234.4.

1234.2. The State WIB shall administer the grant program as follows:

(a) Develop criteria for the selection of grant recipients through a public application process, including, but not limited to, the rating and ranking of applications that meet the threshold criteria set forth in this section.

(b) Design the grant program application process to ensure all of the following occurs:

(1) Outreach and technical assistance is made available to eligible applicants, especially to small population and rural counties.

(2) Grants are awarded on a competitive basis.

(3) Small and rural counties are competitive in applying for funds.

(4) Applicants are encouraged to develop evidence-based, best practices for serving the workforce training and education needs of the supervised population.

(5) The education and training needs of both of the following are addressed:

(A) Individuals with some postsecondary education who can enter into programs and benefit from services that result in certifications, and placement on a middle skill career ladder.

(B) Individuals who require basic education as well as training in order to obtain entry level jobs where there are opportunities for career advancement.

1234.3. (a) The grant program shall be competitively awarded through at least two rounds of funding, with the first phase of funding being awarded on or before May 1, 2015.

(b) Each county is eligible to apply, and a single application may include multiple counties applying jointly. Each application shall include a partnership agreement between the county or counties and one or more local workforce investment boards that outline the actions each party agrees to undertake as part of the project proposed in the application.

(c) At a minimum, each project proposed in the application shall include a provision for an education and training assessment for each individual of the supervised population who participates in the project. The assessment may be undertaken by the applicant or by another entity. A prior assessment of an individual may be used if, in the determination of the State WIB, its results are accurate.

(d) Eligible uses of grant funds include, but are not limited to, vocational training, stipends for trainees, and apprenticeship opportunities for the supervised population. Supportive services and job readiness activities shall serve as bridge activities that lead to enrollment in long-term training programs.

(e) Preference shall be awarded to applications for the following:

(1) An application that proposes matching funds, including, but not limited to, moneys committed by local workforce investment boards, local governments, and private foundation funds.

(2) An application submitted by a county that currently administers or participates in a workforce training program for the supervised population.

(3) An application that proposes participation by one or more nonprofit community-based organizations that serve the supervised population.

(f) An application shall meet the following requirements:

(1) Set a specific purpose for the use of the grant funds, as well as provide the baseline criteria and metrics by which the overall success of the grant project can be evaluated.

(2) Define the specific subset of the supervised population, among the eligible supervised population that the grant money will serve.

(3) Define the industry sector or sectors in which the targeted supervised population will be trained, including the current and projected workforce within the region for those jobs, the range of wage rates, and the training and education requirements within those industry sectors.

(4) Define the general methodology and training methods proposed to be used and explain the manner in which the progress of the targeted supervised population will be monitored during the grant period.

(g) As a condition of receiving funds, a grant recipient shall agree to provide information to the State WIB in sufficient detail to allow the State WIB to meet the reporting requirements in Section 1234.4.

1234.4. (a) On at least an annual basis, and upon completion of the grant period, grant recipients shall report to the State WIB regarding their use of the funds and workforce training program outcomes.

(b) By January 1, 2018, the State WIB shall submit a report to the Legislature using the reports from the grant recipients. The report shall contain all the following information:

(1) The overall success of the grant program, based on the goals and metrics set in the awarded grants.

(2) An evaluation of the effectiveness of the grant program based on the goals and metrics set in the awarded grants.

(3) A recommendation on the long-term viability of local workforce investment board and county collaborations on workforce training programs for the supervised population.

(4) A recommendation on the long-term viability of county workforce training programs for the supervised population.

(5) In considering the overall success and effectiveness of the grant program, the report shall include a discussion of all of the following:

(A) Whether the programs aligned with the workforce needs of high-demand sectors of the state and regional economies.

(B) Whether there was an active job market for the skills being developed where the member of the supervised population was likely to be released.

(C) Whether the program increased the number of members of the supervised population that obtained a marketable and industry or apprenticeship board-recognized certification, credential, or degree.

(D) Whether the program increased the numbers of the supervised population that successfully complete a job readiness basic skill bridge program and enroll in a long-term training program.

(E) Whether there were formal or informal networks in the field that support finding employment upon release from custody.

(F) Whether the program led to employment in occupations with a livable wage.

(c) (1) The requirement for submitting a report imposed under subdivision (b) is inoperative on January 1, 2021, pursuant to Section 10231.5 of the Government Code.

(2) A report to be submitted pursuant to subdivision (b) shall be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.

1234.5. This chapter shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2021, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2021, deletes or extends that date.

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